

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USBERL 00563 242030Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
-----242033 032216 /47

O 241957Z FEB 77

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4094

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 0563

EXDIS

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR WB UK US UR FR

SUBJ: VISIT TO HESS BY HIS SON

REF: USBERLIN 0562

1. FRENCH POLAD, UK AND US DEP POLADS, LEGAL ADVISERS AND SPANDAU WESTERN GOVERNORS MET EVENING FEB 24 TO DISCUSS RESULTS OF QUADRIpartite GOVERNORS' MEETING JUST CONCLUDED. GOVERNORS REPORTED

SOVIET GOVERNOR STILL OPPOSED FRIDAY VISIT OF WOLF-RUEDIGER HESS (SCHEDULED FOR 11-1130 AM) AND OPPOSED ADVISING SON OF SUICIDE ATTEMPT

(WHICH FRENCH PSYCHIATRIST, CALLED IN FROM FRG, HAD PRONOUNCED AS SERIOUS ATTEMPT). SOVIET PURPOSE WAS TO PUNISH HESS FOR SUICIDE ATTEMPT. WESTERN GOVERNORS REMINDED SOVIET GOVERNOR, WHOM THEY CONSIDER REASONABLE MAN, THAT QUADRIpartite DECISION HAD ALREADY BEEN MADE TO PERMIT VISIT AND NEW DECISION, AGREED TO BY ALL FOUR POWERS, WOULD BE REQUIRED TO POSTPONE IT, AS SOVIET GOVERNOR WANTED. SOVIET GOVERNOR DID NOT REFUTE THIS POINT. HE MENTIONED THAT HE HAD NOT HAD TIME TO INFORM HIS SUPERIORS OF DECISION OF DOCTORS, INCLUDING SOVIET, THAT VISIT SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN VIEW OF HESS' DEPRESSION. SOVIET GOVERNOR AGREED TO INFORM FRENCH GOVERNOR THIS EVENING BY PHONE OF FINAL
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SOVIET POSITION CONCERNING BOTH VISIT AND WHETHER SON SHOULD BE INFORMED OF SUICIDE ATTEMPT.

2. IT WAS AGREED TRIpartitely THAT IF SOVIETS AGREE TO VISIT, BUT NOT TO INFORMING SON OF TUESDAY NIGHT'S EVENTS, WESTERN GOVERNORS WOULD MEET AT 0830 FEB 25 AND PRESS FOR SOVIET AGREEMENT TO INFORMING SON BUT NOT TO POINT THAT VISIT MIGHT

HAVE TO BE CANCELLED. IF SOVIETS SEEK TO WITHDRAW THEIR
EARLIER AGREEMENT TO VISIT (AND PASS SIGNED BY SOVIET GOVERNOR
AWAITS WOLF-RUEDIGER HESS ON HIS ARRIVAL), THEN GOVERNORS WOULD
ATTEMPT TO CHANGE SOVIET POSITION AT 0830 MEETING. IF EFFORT FAILS
OR IF CONSULTATIONS ARE STILL IN PROCESS AT 11:00 AM, WESTERN
GOVERNORS WOULD PROCEED WITH VISIT ANYWAY. IN THE MEANTIME, US
POLAD WOULD SEEK URGENT CONTACT WITH KHOTULEV OF SOVIET EMBASSY
EAST BERLIN TO SEEK REVERSAL OF SOVIET POSITION AND TO EXPLAIN
THAT ALLIES WERE NOT PREPARED TO FLY IN FACE OF ESTABLISHED
PROCEDURE AT SPANDAU NOR TO DISREGARD OPINION OF DOCTORS OF ALL
FOUR POWERS WHO BELIEVED THAT VISIT SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN VIEW OF
HESS' DEPRESSED STATE OF MIND. GEORGE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Sent Date: 24-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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TAGS: PFOR, WB, UK, US, UR, FR, (HESS, RUDOLF), (HESS, WOLF-RUEDIGER)
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